

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner's attention to the present application is noted with appreciation.

Claims 2-4, 9-10, 15-16, 21-22, 27-28, 33-34, 39-42, 44-46, 50-52, 55-56, 64-66, 67-68, 76-77, 79-80, 85-86, and 91-92 have been canceled. Claims 133 through 136 have been newly added, and claims 1, 42, 53, 88, and 93 have been amended.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39-56, 58, 59, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 68, 70, 71, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 85, 86, 88, 89, 91-96, 98, 99, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107, 108, 110, 111, 113, 114, 116, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 125, 126, 128, 129, 131, and 132 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) or 102(e) by Nee (U.S. Patent Application 2002/0034603), which issued on April 8, 2003 as U.S. Patent No. 6,544,616. Such rejection is traversed, particularly as to the claims as amended. Independent claims 1, 53, and 93 have been amended so that any claimed alloy has a copper content of greater than about 5.0 atomic percent. In paragraphs [0057] and [0076] Nee states that the maximum copper content of the disclosed alloys is about 5.0 atomic percent. Thus Nee does not anticipate the present claims as amended. Further, the presently claimed alloys would not be obvious over Nee, since raising the copper composition would change the properties of the alloys. In fact, the Nee reference teaches against a higher copper content; in paragraph [0010] Nee states that copper-based alloys (that is, alloys with a high copper content) have suboptimal corrosion resistance.

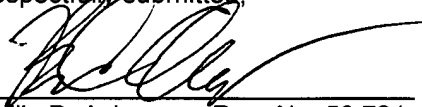
In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all grounds of rejection and objection have been avoided and/or traversed. It is believed that the case is now in condition for allowance and same is respectfully requested.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner believes that prosecution of this application might be expedited by discussion of the issues, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned agent for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Also being filed herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time to November 16, 2005, with the appropriate fee. Authorization is given to charge payment of any additional fees required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Acct. 13-4213. A duplicate of this paper is enclosed for accounting purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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